

BLACK

AND BLUE

JUNE/AUG

No 1

'87



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ANARCHIST FOR DIRECT DEMOCRACY: PO BOX 330 Port Melbourne 3207.

ANARCHIST MEDIA INSTITUTE: PO BOX 20 Parkville 3052.

Melbourne Group/ ASF. PO BOX 1066 Nth Richmond 3121.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION. PO BOX 20 Parkville 3052

LIBERTARIAN MICROFICHE. PO BOX 396 Elsternwick 3185

Melbourne Anarchist Center. PO BOX 37 East Brunswick.

Melbourne Institute of Technologie-Anarchists. PO BOX 20 Parkville 3052.

REALITY ATTACK. PO BOX 163 Nth Carlton 3053

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ANARCHISTS IN EASTERN EUROPE. 'Info Network' GPO BOX 2236 Canberra City 2601.

CANBERRA CRIMES. GPO BOX 1814 Canberra city 2601.

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WOBBLY PRESS. PO BOX 1293 Darwin 5790.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

FREEDOM COLLECTIVE. PO BOX 203 FREEMANTLE 6160.

PERTH ANARCHIST FEMINISTS. C/O Squirrel Nutkins 403 Hay St Subiaco 6008.

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SYDNEY GROUP/ ASF. PO BOX 92 Broadway 2007

EVERYTHING: 417 King St Newtown 2042.

LIBERTARIAN RESOURCES. 10 Church St East Newcastle 2300.

OUR ROAD. PO BOX A 586 Sth Sydney 2000.

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BLACK ROSE: 36 Botany road Redfern 2015.

JURA BOOKS. 417 King St Newtown 2042.

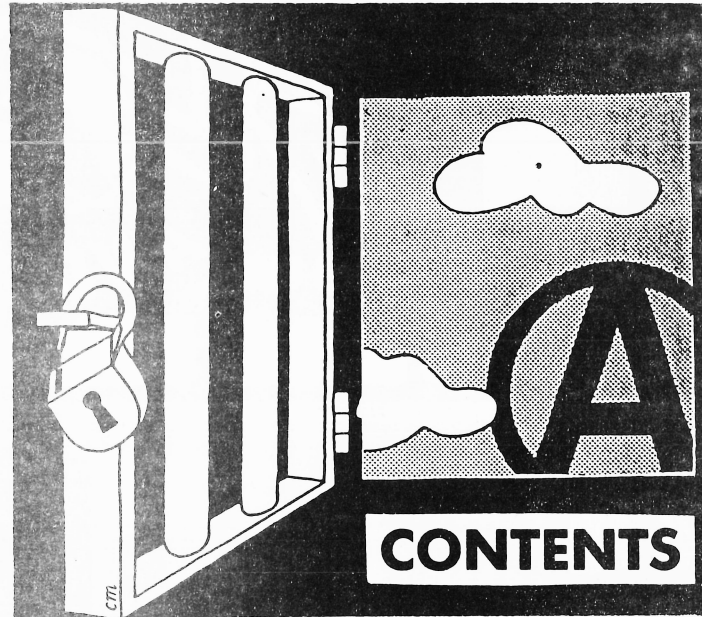
QUEENSLAND:

EMA's Bookshop. 82 Vulture St West End 4101.

Libertarian Information Service. PO BOX 242 West End 4101.

MUTUAL AID PO BOX 187 West End 4101.

RURAL ANARCHISTS: Cumaroogunga MS 508 Warwick 4270.



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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Black and Blue is the magazine of the Anarchist Black Cross (ABC Melbourne). ABC is an international support group which disseminates news concerning prisoners of conscience world wide, so that they may receive international support.

Copies of black and blue for a year will be mailed to subscribers for the cheap price of one dollar. Overseas subscriptions five dollars. Free to all prisoners.

You can contact the ABC by writing to PO box 257 Collingwood 3066 Australia



ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS IN MELBOURNE

Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) is an international organization which, since the first decade of the century has been active in defending anarchist political prisoners. It began in tsarist Russia and spread to Italy, Germany and America. It is now active throughout Europe, Japan and north and south America. There was a branch in Melbourne in the seventies. The current group was formed in Melbourne in May 1986. The Melbourne branch can be contacted via PO Box 257 Collingwood, 3066. A Brisbane branch has been formed, and has been running a prisoners' community radio programme. It can be contacted via PO Box 430, South Brisbane 4101.

The objectives of the Melbourne branch are:

- 1) To support anarchist prisoners in Australia and abroad.
- 2) To support prisoners in Australia accused of political offences.
- 3) To communicate with branches of anarchist black cross around Australia and around the world.
- 4) To aid victims of persecution on grounds of beliefs, ethnic, national identity or moral stance.

5) To act as a prisoners support group, and to co-operate with other support groups in Australia.

6) To work towards dismantling the prison system and associated systems of enforced detention.

The Melbourne group expected its main function would be to support overseas prisoners. It is Black Cross philosophy that any anarchist who goes to jail or faces death for her or his beliefs deserves international support. We reasoned that Australia is a relatively liberal country where political persecution is a less serious problem than under many other regimes. Shortly after our formation, however, our attention was drawn to two cases of Australian anarchists under attack by the law, as well as an incident in New Zealand.

The case of Ivan

Ivan, an active member of libertarian workers for a self managed society and the Melbourne Anarchist Centenary Celebrations Committee was arrested at the 23rd of March peace Sunday rally, last year. During the march there were a number of right wing demonstrators on the roof of Flinders street station plaza displaying US

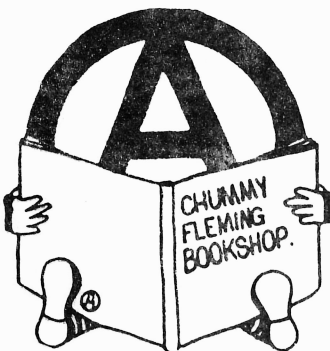
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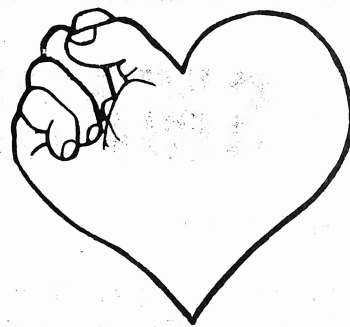
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MUTUAL AID
P.O. Box 20
PARKVILLE 3052
Melbourne, Australia

flags and banners defending French imperialism. At one point a group of about thirty anarchists approached the demonstration and proceeded to burn an american flag and seize a large banner in support of french bombing in the Pacific ocean. Iven, who was loosely connected with these people was watching the flag burn when he was seized from behind by a police agent and dragged away. He was charged with a number of fabricated offences, including kicking police. He was released on bail, but was arrested again at the station pier protest on the 10th of June for hindering police, a mistake. He was convicted of some of the charges, and released with a two hundred and forty dollar fine.

The case of Bryan Law

On Queensland day 1986, a Queensland anarchist called Bryan Law was arrested for

- delivering an address in the Queen st mall(Brisbane) without a licence or permit
- distributing advertising material in the Queen st mall
- disobeying a police direction

He served ten days jail and was released, presumably because of the potential embarrassment to the state, but can be arrested at any future date due to outstanding warrants.

The egg throwing incident

During the royal tour of New Zealand in 1986 two women were arrested for throwing

eggs at the Queen. They served six months imprisonment for the event.

The case of Katsuhisa Omori

The case of Katsuhisa Omori, the anarchist supporter on death row due to being falsely convicted for bombing a government building is fairly well publicised in recent anarchist literature, and our campaign of weekly demonstrations outside the Japanese consulate is discussed elsewhere in this magazine. Anyone interested in supporting Omori are invited to write to us at our post box number.

Late last year we were visited by a member of the London Black Cross, and we remain in contact with the English based "Black Flag" collective. This group does invaluable work in reporting on atrocities around the world that get little or no coverage in the main stream press, and one of our goals for 1987 is to use such forums to make local atrocities known internationally. The Australian Anarchist Black Cross has passed through the critical phases such groups go through when everyone is afraid it might fizzle out. Our numbers are growing, morale is strong and we have learned a great deal. We feel that it would be a shameful thing if a continent the size of Australia was not part of an international community that is the sole source of support for many people whose only 'crime' has been acting on their consciences.

SMASH THE "COOP"

SUPPORT ARRESTED ACTIVISTS

On the 20th of March 1987, Gary Rowson, Iain Banfield and Matthew Layton were arrested in their homes in connection with an alleged raid on the Kambouris poultry farm, in which 16 battery hens were rescued and an amount of eggs were smashed. The charges they face include theft, burglary and criminal damage. This incident has led to the establishment of the Supporters' Group for Animal Activists. The group's aims are to:

- 1) Provide legal assistance to those involved in direct action for the benefit of animals;
- 2) Provide financial assistance to those fined or imprisoned following direct action;
- 3) Provide financial assistance to the

families of those imprisoned following direct action; and

- 4) Distribute a newsletter concerning direct actions throughout Australia and overseas.

The group's first project will be to provide legal representation for Gary, Iain, and Matthew. Defending the three will be a costly exercise. For this reason we desperately need funds. If your organisation or any member of your organisation is able to make a donation please send it immediately to: Supporters' Group for Animal Activists, P.O. box 519, Eltham, 3095

The group will be, as its name suggests, a supporters' group. Its activities will be legal. Its funds will not be used to finance any illegal activity (making a donation to the supporters group is legal.)

ABORIGINAL DEATHS IN CUSTODY

When the Australian government criticizes France for its colonial domination of New Caledonia, the French government is able to point to Australia's deplorable treatment of aboriginal people.

The minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Holding dismisses such attacks as exaggerations and claims that he and his party do not need to be told of the wrongs aborigines have suffered in the past and that in terms of the amount of human and financial resources it is putting into redressing such wrongs, Australia surpasses any former colony in the world. The person on the street might be inclined to give Holding the benefit of the doubt. We all know racism still exists, but are aborigines the victims of "oppression"? A close look at the facts and figures reveals that they are- that many blacks live in terror, and that for whole communities Australia rivals any police state anywhere for brutality.

The Australian institute for criminology points out that aboriginal people are jailed at least ten times more than white australians, and in Western Australia, 20 times more than whites. In the 1980's there has been recent attention to the number of deaths of blacks in custody, at the hands of police or prison wardens. This article summarises information disseminated by the New South Wales group, Comitee to defend black rights (PO Box 498, Broadway, NSW 2007)

EDDIE MURRAY

On June 12th 1981 Eddie Murray of the NSW country town Weewaa was drinking with his brother. He was picked up by the police and an hour later he was hanged in a police cell with a prison blanket. At an inquest police claimed Murray had committed suicide. His parents claimed that he was a popular happy go lucky person and that he was never depressed when drinking. One policeman involved, Rodney Fitzgerald claimed he was off duty at the time of the death, but had to admit he had been lying when witnesses said they had seen him in the police van. There were all sorts of inconsistencies in police

JOHN PAT

On the 28th of September 1983, five off duty policemen were drinking in a hotel in Roebourne, Western Australia. One of them verbally abused an aboriginal man called Ashely James. James left the hotel, and the police followed him outside. One began a fight. Other aborigines tried to restrain James from retaliating. These were also attacked. One of them, John Pat was beaten and kicked to death. Others were badly injured. The whole incident was witnessed by many people and the forensic evidence left no doubt as to the cause of Pat's death. The police did all they could to falsify their side of the evidence.

The policemen were tried by the white legal system. Policeman Bordas, who killed Pat, and the other police involved, were acquitted and re-instated to their positions in the police force. Some of the aboriginal men involved in the brawl, however, were convicted of aggravated assault, and are serving sentences.

ROBERT WALKER

On the 28th of August, 1984 a prisoner in Fremantle prison, Robert Walker, was found in his cell with cut wrists in a disturbed state of mind. He was taken from his cell by five prison officers, and began to scream; "They're going to kill me. Murder murder". His cries awoke 41 other prisoners who witnessed Walker being beaten with a truncheon for twenty minutes, presumably in an attempt to stop him screaming. Obviously Walker's suicide attempt was not the cause of his subsequent death, because he survived 80 blows, and was eventually given a dose of the tranquilliser, larqactil. About half an hour later he died. Various cover up attempts were made, and press reporters who questioned accounts that he died of 'suicide', a larqactil overdose, or a mysterious illness, had their stories suppressed. The convict witnesses were intimidated against giving honest evidence and many were transported to country jails. Coroner McCann eventually deemed that Walker had died of 'misadventure', which means death caused by another unintentionally and in course of doing something lawful! None of the prison officers were prosecuted.

CHARLIE MICHAELS

On october 9th 1984 in Barton Mill prison W.A., a quiet normally well behaved aboriginal prisoner, Charlie Michaels, in a fit of depression, began rumbling and grabbed the lapels of warden Stan Lodges jacket. Four prison officers tied him up, and struggled with him for forty minutes. The Perth city coroner found that Michaels



had died of a heart attack. However Michaels had no history of cardiac problems. If a heart attack was what killed him, he was given no medical assistance, despite the Western Australian government guarantees of '...adequate and timely assistance...to all prisoners'.

TONY KING

In 1985 the police of Geraldton, W.A. were under immense pressure to apprehend a rapist who had been active for 6 years. On october the 31st of that year, a law abiding citizen called Tony King happened to be found in an area the police were patrolling. He was chased and held in a bear-hug embrace, which eventually asphyxiated him. They made no attempt to resuscitate him when they saw he was dying. Police Sergeant Brandis admitted that they had no evidence that King was the 'Geraldton rapist', but police apparently found it convenient to allow the media to dramatically announce that the rapist had been caught. Sergeant Brandis was ordered to keep silent. Community protest was muted by public confusion as to whether or not King was the rapist although that it has gradually come to light that there is little to support that claim.

DIXON GREEN

Dixon Green died in Broome regional prison, W.A. on november 19th 1986. His family were informed that he had died of a heart attack, but did not believe it. His brother, Ken Green said: "My brother had no record of heart trouble... He exercised every day...I saw him just after he died and he looked like had been in a fight. One eye was bruised... We found his front teeth knocked out, top and bottom...we also found a red mark around his neck. There was nothing about missing teeth in the government pathologist's report". After the autopsy Green's body was returned to the family without the heart and brain. An unacceptable condition for him to be buried in. If, in fact, a heart attack had occurred, no attempt had been made to seek medical help.

The family of many of the above people continue to be harassed by police. The committee to defend black rights assures us that there have been many more deaths of aboriginal people in custody, and this



tends to be confirmed by, for example, a report in the Melbourne Age (April 18, 1987) about the aboriginal community of Yarrabah in Queensland. The Age, however, attributes numerous deaths in custody to suicide. "Police at Yarrabah and other communities have...taken the sheets in the cell blocks, but the suicide attempts continue" (Margaret Simons, the Age 18.4.87). Suicide may or may not be the actual cause of death, but the excessive imprisonment of blacks for minor offences is certainly a factor.

Relatives of victims of deaths in custody have toured Australia campaigning

for a Federal Royal Commission into the matter. Mr Holding, the aboriginal affairs minister, is trying to encourage them to settle for a parliamentary inquiry, which does not have the powers or scope of a royal commission. An aboriginal deaths in custody watch committee was established on the 14th of April, 1987 in NSW. Individuals or groups are welcome to join this committee, and Black Cross is joining as an organisation. Interested individuals can contact Vanessa (02-6989826) or Helen or Matt (02-6603444). The committee to defend black rights can be contacted at PO Box 498, Broadway NSW 2007.

YEAR OF SHELTER

The media always on the look out for a good sensational story, found one through a poem that appeared in the Squatters Union of Victoria magazine "Squat it". The poem expressed hatred towards the cops. The media hype started off on the 5th of May with a front page article in the Sun. Then the squatters had all the media harrasement they needed, newspapers radio and television stations came down to the SUV offices to get a good story, they even paid some squatters to appear on air. The angle taken by the interviewers could be summed

up in one word "OUTRAGE", reporters even hinted that the poems author and the people that put the magazine together were psycologically ill, which led to the following Sunday Press publishing a psycological report on the poems author. But all the reporters missed the main point, which one squatters pointed out to them, there's no smoke without fire, in oth er words, there's a cause for people hating the police; here's what our angelic police force have been DOING (not writng) to squatters.

EVICTIIONS

****Beginning '86-** Royal Australian Air Force initiated police harrasment of Laverton squatters heats up through false accusations of vandalism. This continued until June-July '86 when 24 households were evicted in lightening raids by RAAF military police. Doors were sledgehammered and people were threatened. A number of people were left homeless and possessions were thrown into the streets.

****August/sept '86** Hawke st West Melb; early morning raid by Ministry of Housing (MOH) and police, 4 houses were evicted into the rain. Floorboards were chainsawed up by scabs and peoples belongings were confiscated by the MOH.

****Sept '86,** police vendetta against the orphanage Sth Melb begins; 20 police raid orphanage at 2am. People were threatened and intimidated with violence.

****Oct '86** Elm st Northcote; Northcote city council bureaucrats and police evict squatters. Doors were kicked in and three people were evicted, one was arrested for trespass.

****Nov '86** Charnwood cres St Kilda; 10 people were evicted by police while the rich landowner stood by. The house had been squatted for a year. A fence was erected and the roof torn off, 1 resident was hit by a tile and their possessions thrown into the street.

****Jan '87** Orphanage; placed under night time seige, police were unable to get into the building so they smashed windows.

****Feb '87** Hutton st Thornbury; lightening raid by police and MOH, 4 people were evicted and all possessions thrown into the street, doors were of course kicked in.



****March '87** Dorcas st Sth Melb; evicted by MOH and police, 8 people thrown into the street after lightening raid, 4 people were arrested and beaten up at police cells, front windows were smashed.

****March '87** Ivanhoe; was evicted by 30 police. Some resistance to the eviction was met with violent aggresion, police bashings and false charges, 11 people arrested 2 brutally bashed.

****March '87** Morwell, Gippsland; Regional squatters group were evicted from their home with no warning what so ever.

****April '87** Orphanage; 30 police from Sth melb, Prahran and St Kilda raid the orphanage. Doors were sledgehammered, people were physically and verbally abused, had dog shit wiped on them and were forced to do humiliating acts. Personal belongings were destroyed and a pet sadistically murdered by a police officer, 2 women were arrested and charged with assaulting police, hindering and abusive language.

****May '87** Blanche st Preston; Two houses were evicted, windows and doors kicked in, personal belongings thrown on the street, meter boards were ripped out, security guards hired to look after the now empty houses.

Concerning the Ivanhoe eviction, the people arrested have to appear in court on the 22nd of July. We ask people to show support with the arrested squatters, by shwing up on that date, at 10am at the Heidelberg Magistrate court.

For more info you can contact the SUV on

JIKA JIKA

As I am writing this article two men lie starving to death amidst the cold, clinical terror of K. Division- Jika Jika, the maximum security complex at Pentridge. One, Greg Brazel, is approaching his eightieth day on hunger strike; the other, Peter Michael Reid, his 50th. This is the second occasion on which Greg Brazel has risked all with a hunger strike in order to focus public attention on the brutality and inhumanity of conditions at Pentridge. On the first occasion he was 50 days without food. By the time you read this he will probably be dead.

Peter Michael Reid has been confined in Jika Jika since his arrest in the middle of last year in connection with the bombing of the Russell street police station. Committal proceedings against him are only now beginning. He has not been convicted of any crime, is still on remand, yet he is being kept in K division. This is in direct contravention of the U.N. Charter which stipulates that prisoners on remand be housed separately from those already convicted. It is to highlight the state's blatant contempt for the U.N. Charter that Peter has resorted to the extreme measure of a hunger strike. Greg Brazel, with a long experience of life at Pentridge at the absolute mercy of a callous bureaucracy and a brutal administration, is demanding a Royal commission into the entire Victorian prison system.

The isolation and impotence of prison life severely restricts the range of tactical options available for political expression. One can write to the press but they rarely publish prisoners' complaints. Or one can write to the Ombudsman though he too never decided in favour of a prisoner yet. Only the most extreme tactics can penetrate the conspiracy of silence constructed by the state to keep the lid on the issues of penal conditions and reform. The most extreme is, of course, the hunger strike but three other Jika Jika prisoners have chosen another stratagem-that of bronzing up.

Bronzing up draws on the tradition established by the republican political prisoners in H-Block, Long Kesh in Northern Ireland in the late seventies. Arthur Gallagher, Robert Wright and David McCauley have been smearing the doors and walls of their Jika cells with their own shit since the middle of March. They have also been putting shit in the air

conditioning system of their unit in the Jika Jika complex. Because of the ensuing health risks other inmates have had to be moved from the unit and prison officers are reluctant to work there.

Gallagher, Wright and McCauley are seeking a full independent enquiry into Jika Jika. They want such an inquiry to address itself primarily to investigating the real function of the division. Is it, as the state purports, to "protect the community from dangerous and violent criminals?" Or is it, as the Prisoners Action Group maintained at the time of its opening, designed firstly for "breaking inmate activists by means of sophisticated and more readily disguised psychological torture techniques...techniques tested and refined by uniformed terrorists like the present Pentridge Superintendent Gerald Myers, whose principal qualification for that position was 21 years service in the US army intelligence Corps".

Reasoning and evidence point to the latter, Arthur Gallagher's experience is a particularly poignant case in point. He has a long history of militant political activism in Pentridge, frequently embarrassing the administration with complaints to the minister or Ombudsman and acting as an inside contact for the Prisoners Action Group. In March of last year Arthur and 8 others were accused of planning a mass escape. Though never actually formally charged Arthur was moved to Jika Jika. The others were charged but acquitted. Arthur has been in Jika Jika since, moved there on grounds later proven to be spurious, in an obvious attempt to silence him and to destroy his capacity for resistance and struggle.

How is it, you may ask, that a mere change in a place of confinement can break a prisoner's will in the prison system of the 1980's. The insidiously refined architectural features of Jika Jika are such that a prisoner will find him or herself in absolute isolation, where even his or her meal is passed in by unseen hands; and in a totally featureless physical environment devoid of nearly all forms of sensory stimulation. K division is so psychologically disorienting that officers on duty have been known to lose their sense of direction entirely and many demonstrate signs of severe psychological stress after shifts. If the officers suffer so, there can be little doubt of the devastating effect on prisoners of a long period of solitary confinement there.

Jika Jika has been subject of controversy since its opening largely due to the militancy of activists inside and outside the prison system. It has already come under the scrutiny of an official inquiry, that of Professor Challenger, the findings of which were so politically sensitive that the state government didn't release the report. The Prisoner's action Group, however, obtained a copy of it through use of the Freedom of Information Act. The report found that the division being used not for the purpose of security or protection but as a disciplinary weapon for use against management problems, as opponents of Jika Jika had long argued. When, in the 1970's, the Nagel Report condemned Katingal, the maximum security division of Sydney's Long Bay on the same grounds, it was closed down. In Victoria, Challenger's findings were merely suppressed.

Jika Jika is not now and never was intended to be a section for security risks or dangerous prisoners. Adequate facilities for such inmates existed already in H-Division and in the high security section of B-Division. Its opening was, again in the words of the PAG, "a direct response to a decade of prisoners revolt; revolt demanding an end to the systematic brutalisation and dehumanisation of Victorian prisoners". Prisoners like Arthur Gallagher personify that spirit of revolt; Jika Jika was designed to crush it. The continued militancy of Gallagher, his fellow prisoners and the hunger strikers, Reid and Brazen demonstrate its ultimate failure. If you want more information or wish to assist in the struggle for real prison reform in Victoria contact: the Prisoner's Action Group, 65 Gertrude st Fitzroy. Ph 417 6266

— WOMEN IN PENTRIDGE —

Dear reader,

This is a bit of a downer letter but at the same moment, us female prisoners are far from being happy.

What we are concerned about is what's happening in here now as apparently no-one seems to know what is going on and what's happening here.

Last Thursday night a female prisoner tried to hang herself, because she was pretty down. The screws, seniors and chiefs, were told about the bad state of depression she was in, but as always they didn't give a shit. So last Thursday we heard this bang noise, and somehow we just knew what she was trying to do. Then we heard this gurgling noise and her legs kicking, so we yelled out to the screws to get over to her cell and check her, and sure enough she was hanging there from the pipes near above her cell door and because the screws of the night don't have keys to the cell doors, only to the locks of our traps, and the senior was no-where to be found for about twenty minutes as he is the only one with the keys to the cell doors. Well the screws had to put their arms through the trap to hold her up till the senior eventually got there. Now if she had decided to hang herself on the other side of her cell she would have been dead now because they wouldn't have got to her in time.

Anyway, last night another girl, XXX came in the afternoon van hanging out from a 600\$ a day habit. She was given nothing but a tiny bit of valium which is shit all

with a habit like that, so she was pretty sick and pretty down. The screws were also told of this girl's condition, but as usual, don't give a shit. Anyway after lock up and when medication came around at about nine o'clock, the H.A. who gives out medication was asked to please check on her as we were concerned about her condition. Anyway he went to her cell but it was too late as she had already hung herself and died.



How many more of us have to die??? That's 4 now that we know of that have died from hanging themselves. They have to get us female prisoners out of this mens jail and only you's can help us. The females do their time a lot harder than



the men in every way. We are confined to this little annexe with not enough space to move around in. We have a tiny little yard, we have no oval to run around in. We have no gymnasium to work out in. We have no big inground pool etc etc. like the men have all these things. We are confined to this small area "the Annexe" and that's it. How many more have to die before they eventually get us out of here or even improve these inhuman conditions. We are asking for help, from you's and only you's can help us. Please do something for us, protest outside the jail, anything. Just help us please. This place is getting worse and worse. The rules and regulations are getting worse as the weeks go by.

We are now even getting blackbooked for leaving our own TV's on or our lights.

Girls are getting loss of privileges now just for wearing dressing gowns on muster because it's so cold in the yard where we muster. We all can take only so much. We can't handle anymore of our friends committing suicide or trying to and seeing



young girls slash their wrists and trying to kill themselves. Please help us in some way before more tragedy happens. There is so many going down hill, we need your help to get us out of this hell hole.

We don't belong to this mens prison. We need some action done NOW before anymore of these poor buggers kill themselves. It's all to much for us to live with, with what's going on around us. It's affecting us all mentally and we can't go on much more. What is it that they want us to do, all die? Please we need your help.

We can't write anymore as we're pretty down. HELP! Why was the woman who killed herselftrated in the way she was, as it was well known that she had said she would if sent back to jail?

Why don't some screws want the women moved? Are they making too much money out of the women being there?

Who in the government is profiting from the women being kept there?

If the annexe is an example of how our jails work is it any wonder that Fairlea was burnt the way it was? It also makes one wonder when the next jail is going to be burnt.

Was the women permanent stay at Pentridge planned?

When they planned the rebuilding of parts of Fairlea they knew about how many women prisoners they would have in custody after they finished. This would seem to suggest that there never was any intention in the first place of moving women out of Pentridge once they had them there.

CLOSE JIKA AND 'B' ANNEXE NOW, AND WE MEAN NOW NOT THE YEAR 2000.

From women prisoners in 'B' annexe, Pentridge prison.

Five years ago a fire at Fairlea Womens prison caused the then minister for community welfare to move some of the women to Pentridges 'B' annexe. This was then said to be a temporary move whilst what was burnt at airlea was rebuilt. Since then about 30 women have been held at the annexe and at Pentridge ill-famed Jika Jika. During this period there has been 4 women committing suicide, dozens of attempts at suicide and numerous self mutilations. The history of 'B' annexe and Jika Jika has been one of brutality and repression, carried out by the ruling clique of screws working there, on women prisoners. The suicide and attempted suicide mentioned in the annexe letter leaves a lot of unanswered questions. Why did it take twenty minutes in an emergency to get a senior who could open the door? **HELP CLOSE THEM NOW. CONTACT PRISONERS ACTION GROUP OR WOMEN AGAINST PRISON phone: 417 62 66**

KATSUHISA OMORI

Last year Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) Melbourne, showed their support for K.Omori with a weekly picket outside the Japanese consulate (Melb). The picket ran for 9 weeks starting Monday 11 August, which was an international day of action. Support was shown in Sydney and Europe, particularly London where computers were smashed in a J.A.L. office. Katsuhisa Omori has been imprisoned for over 10 years and has been on death row now the last 3½, he has been convicted for allegedly bombing government offices on Hokkaido, 2 people were killed. **WE BELIEVE THAT HE IS INNOCENT.**

The aim of the picket was to publicise this injustice and to embarrass the Japanese government. We also attempted to lodge an official complaint with the consul general to be sent to Japan, we were repeatedly denied audience and therefore were unable to lodge the official complaint.

Towards the end of our picket last year we received a letter from a French anarchist living in Japan. The letter was sent to anarchist groups world wide. The letter stated that K.Omori was not an anarchist but suggested he belonged to a violent marxist group, and that he had at the time been planning a similar action to the bombing. The letter suggested that anarchist not show support for Omori for those reasons. The letter had the effect

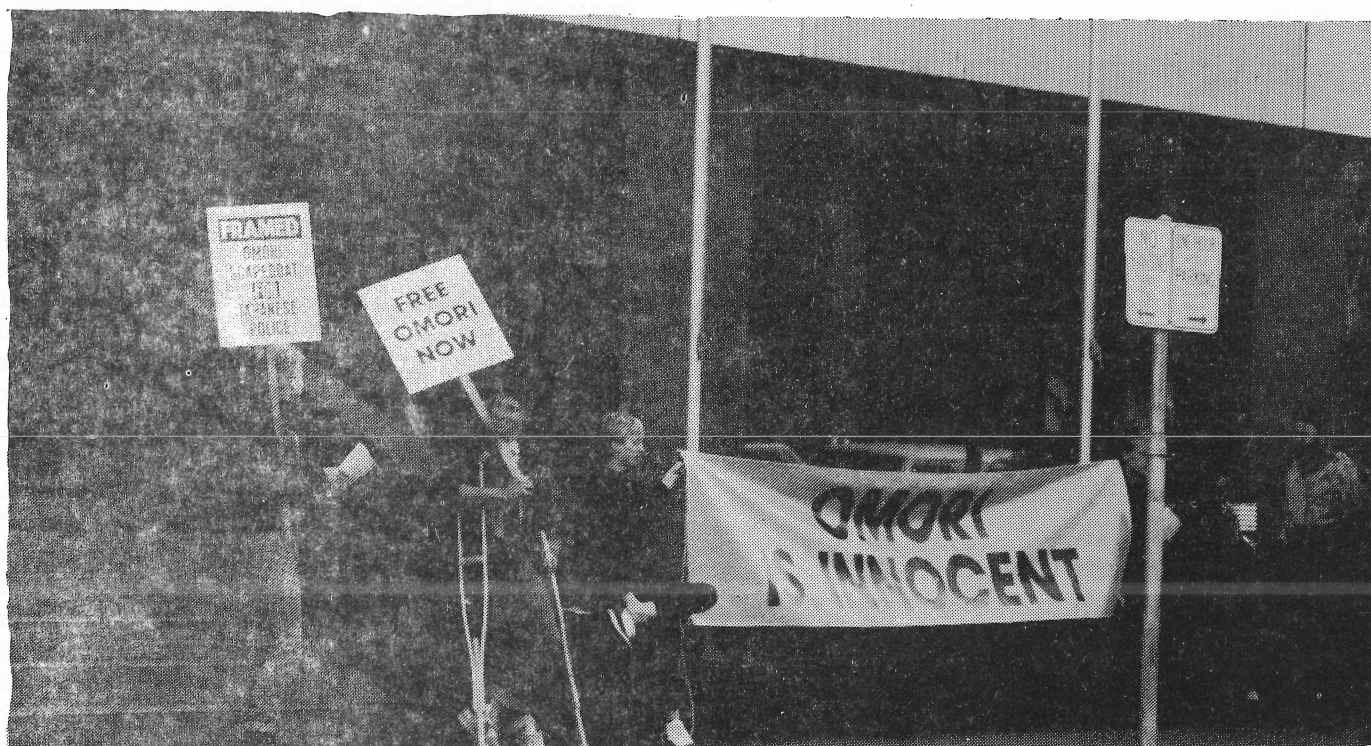
of diffusing much of the anarchist support that Omori had been receiving from anarchist and anarchist groups globally. We, ABC Melbourne, have reason to believe that at Omori is an anarchist sympathiser and that because we also believe that he was and is a scapegoat for the Japanese police, we will continue to show support for him in the future.

At a recent anarchist conference the person responsible for the letter retracted statements made in the letter.

Katsuhisa Omori is still on death row and awaiting a final appeal. It is unlikely the appeal will be successful and his execution is likely to take place later this year.

late news, late news, late news, late news

On the 11th of February this year a public meeting was held in Sapporo in support of Omori, 15 people attended. Protest action was planned for the 30th of March against the Japanese ministry of Justice. The courts are anxious to have the execution take place, the courts we're scheduled to be opened 3 times in April. This was protested against and prevented (the Omori case is opened in the Sapporo courts once every 20 days normally). Support and solidarity has been requested by the Omori support group-Japan. To contact: Chitose PO Box 35 Tokyo Japan.



ABC(MELB) PICKET OUTSIDE THE JAPANESE CONSULATE.

BLAME THE SYSTEM -

The media and society are always saying 'whatabout the victim'? Well I say what about the prisoner who is a victim of hate, sadism, harrassments, physical and mental torture and injustices for 24 hours a day for years. What happens to the screws who do these things to us? Nothing. So in other words, if you are willing to wear a screws uniform you can do what you like to your victim and have full protection of justice. So do people want to know the truth about reality? We are **all victims** from one thing or another, it's just that the **weak** blame the prisoner who is a non voter, uneducated, powerless, defenceless and at mercy of justice and society... I will be realistic and say this, when the victim shows mercy to his victim, well, then there will no victims... I have nothing against any prisoner whether dangerous or not, getting out of jail as soon as they possibly can, as I know the longer people are kept in jail the worse they get, not the better, which is what the government tries to tell society and it only goes to prove how easy it is to brainwash people when people honestly believe that the longer a person does in jail, the better the person becomes. HA! HA! You fucking idiots. Then we come to the other dogs in society who say, 'well we know it won't make people any better by leaving them in jail longer, but they have to be punished.

The people who think this, they're not idiots, as there is an excuse for idiots because they are fools, but these other dogs who believes that people should be in jail for a long time, well they are sadistic bastards who are the gutless ones of society who hide behind the word justice, and use it as a front for satisfying their sadistic desires. Anybody can bash somebody over anger, anybody can hate somebody, anybody can treat people sadistically for a while. But it isn't normal to do ~~these~~ **do it** 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, **year** after year after year, because ~~this~~ **what** jail does to people. I hear every day of the year the ~~so~~ called 'goodies' in society say, 'build more jails', 'givethem longer sentences', they live in motel conditions, 'they should be hung', 'they should be flogged', 'they should not get

parole', 'they are all animals', 'they should not have visitors', 'they should be desexed...and the should 's and should not go on and on, and only sadistic dogs 'should' want people to suffer these things for years and years. Sooner or later, this shit is going to hit the fan and when it backfires on society. I wonder if they 'should' be the first to want mercy... The poor of society are not wanted, and if they don't slave for the rich, well, then they are 'dole bludgers' or 'criminals'. Why wouldn't the young people of today take drugs to get out of the reality of society? Yet to excuse itself society blames the drug pusher. If people have any brains at all, society can only be blamed for turning people away from it, so the only way there will ever be an understanding of all people is when society takes a good hard and honest look at itself and changes its whole line of priorities, laws, values, punishments, weapons, money, women, children, schooling, jobs, sport, housing, sex, coloured countries, families, police, jails, army, justice, all of those things are a part of our society, and I defy anyone to point out any of those things that do not need radical changes to make them more realistic and workable. Yet the government has managed to keep most of the people ignorant of the real problems of society by pointing the finger at the people who society has become to big a strain on, and as result people commit suicide, kill, torture, bash, rob, rape and hate society for what it has done to them. However it is easier for the government to dig graves and lock people up than spend billions on changing society, which creates problems and turns people to crime and drugs, and when society realises that every time they point a finger at someone else they have themselves pointing at themselves, then they will be finally waking up to the truth and trying to solve the problems not create them... what I'm saying

them...What I'm saying is so obvious, I can't work out why people allow things to get so bad and do nothing about solving the problems before they are the next victims of their society.

Raymond John Denning (dangerous criminal)

NOT THE VICTIM

FREE THE FALCON

Chris Boyce is serving a 68 year prison sentence, in solitary confinement since 1982. He was convicted of espionage in 1977. An Australian based campaign, the Chris Boyce Alliance began early in '86 to gather support for an inquiry into Boyce's conviction and into the allegations he has made regarding U.S. violation of Australian domestic affairs.

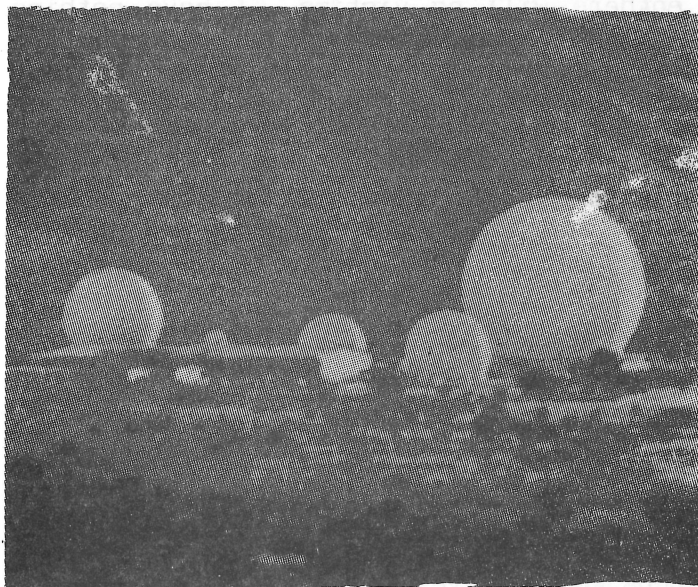
He worked as a postal clerk at an electronic firm in California, called T.R.W. systems. Soon after commencing he was given exclusive security clearance from the F.B.I., the C.I.A., the National Security Agency and the U.S. defence department. He was then transferred to a communications relay room with access to America's secret espionage operations. During the briefing for the new job, Boyce was told that most of the communications would be coming from Pine Gap, and that although America had signed an executive agreement with Australia to share information from Pine Gap, the agreement was not being honoured. It was emphasised to Boyce that certain information was to be hidden from Australia.

This increasingly disturbed Boyce and when it became apparent that the U.S. was intent on toppling the Whitlam government, he made information available to the Soviets.

During his trial little attention was shown towards the prompting Boyce received from a fellow worker, Gene Norman. A former CIA under cover agent he often told Boyce of a plan he had devised for selling information to the Soviets. After several months of prodding Boyce responded to the stimulation and asked a friend, Daulton Lee, to take the information to the Soviet embassy in Mexico City. The scheme began as an impulsive slap at a system Boyce hated but he quickly saw the futility of his actions. Lee had anticipated Boyce's reversal and photocopied the original material. He threatened Boyce with exposure unless the supply continued. Boyce realised that to call a halt he was to manoeuvre the Soviets into ending it. So he sent out-dated and insensitive material. The Soviets became exasperated and Lee was arrested in 1977 by Mexican police outside the embassy after being refused admission by the KGB. The CIA claimed that it knew nothing of the activities of Lee at the Soviet embassy. There is some indication that the CIA may

have attempted to recruit Boyce and turn him into a double agent. Soon after Lee's first walk-in visit to the Soviet embassy in April '75, Boyce was asked by a CIA supervisor to take a job working directly for the agency in a career assignment. Boyce turned the offer down.

Lee walked into the Soviet embassy again in November '75. As '75 ended, the CIA offered Boyce another job, as a courier between the U.S. and the bases in Australia. Boyce again turned the offer down. Boyce's decision to decline opportunities to make himself more accessible to CIA secrets, confirms his claim of being an unwilling participant in the scheme.



PINE GAP, MAKES AUSTRALIA A NUCLEAR TARGET

Boyce at 21 was privy to information that the U.S. administration felt couldn't be entrusted to the Australian government. He exposed America's daily deception of Australia over the Pine Gap spy-base, exposed CIA violation of Australian domestic affairs, including involvement in the destabilisation of the Whitlam government, and lost his freedom in return. His possible release date has been set at August 14th 2008, however he is eligible to present an interim parole application this coming June and has asked Australia to support him. **WE MUST ACT.** For further information, write: Christopher Boyce Alliance, P.O. box 103 Fitzroy, Vic 3065 Aust Telephone: 03-4177304

SAVE JIM TRIMBLE

Jim Trimble is a 23 year old anarchist punk from Maryland USA. He is condemned to die in a gas chamber for a crime we believe he is innocent of. His execution will be in violation of international law as he was 17 years old at the time and found by the court to be "mentally retarded".

Trimble and four other men were all charged with first degree murder, rape, sexual offences, kidnapping and other counts in relation to the killing of Mila Kay Rogers on July 3 1981. The other men all pleaded guilty but could all afford expensive legal representation, coming from wealthy families, 3 of them are now free with the last, Joseph Evans, to be released shortly, it has been alleged that Evans has confessed to doctors that it was he who killed Rogers.

Jim Trimble pleaded not guilty to the charges and his widowed and pension-supported mother could not afford legal fees; Thus Jim was represented by a state appointed lawyer (consider it is the state that wishes to murder him).

To be considered incorrigible to be executed, one has to be convicted of repeated violent crimes, Judge Homes found Trimble to be a "confirmed recidivist", and also concluded that "the ability to

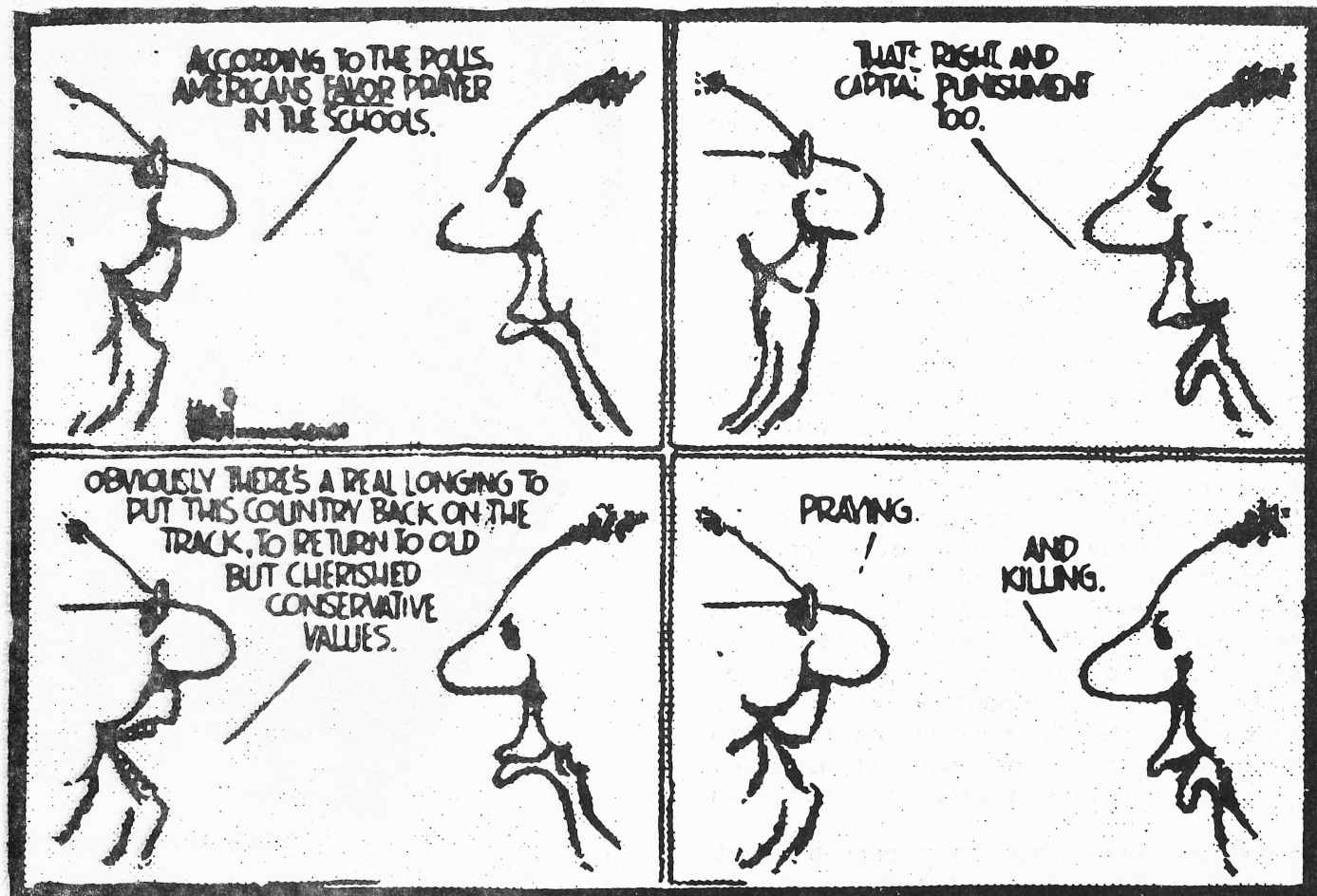
reform and rehabilitate Mr Trimble is not possible with our present state of knowledge", entirely on the basis that Trimble had "had a homosexual relationship at the age of thirteen".

Trimble's time in prison has not exactly been five star club med. In his own words;" they once put me in the "hole". The hole is a cell without a bed or a light and it was very cold. There was a hole in the floor to take a shit in but there was no way to wipe yourself, or flush it away. The guards made it flood and there was about two inches of water with shit mixed in it in the room. I had to stay in that room in the dark and try to sleep in the water and shit for a week."

Trimble, who may only have two more years to live, writes: "sometimes I just get to the point where I lose all hope. Please don't ever let me lose hope." To do nothing is to allow everything. To protest Jim Trimble's sentence write to:

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GOVERNOR GARRY HUGHES
1 EASTON STREET GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND
LONDON WC 1X-8DT ANNATOLIS, MD 21401
UNITED KINGDOM USA

THE PARDON BOARD ANNATOLIS MD 21401
USA



Justification of theft

The following article is dated from 1905. Why republish an article as old, instead of writing something new? Because once you've read this declaration, there's nothing much to add for the justification of theft. All is said, and well said in this article. It's a justification of theft but it is neither unconditional nor blind. It is theft which aims to recover what the exploiters of all shades have pleasure of stealing from us. It is not the theft of hand bags at random or the attack of terrorized pensioners. But it can be the individual retaking in the shops. Then, it is not the theft opposed to work. It's a certain type of theft, which has its "morals" as a means of escaping from the oppressive and exploitative work which this society imposes on us. Work stimulates people, but in a capitalist society, it dulls them because of the idea of profit. Theft will disappear in an anarchist society, but in the present it is unavoidable if not necessary. It shows that between working and begging, there is another kind of survival. And ne



Sirs,
you now know who I am, a rebel living from the products of his burglaries. On top of that, I've burnt down several hotels and defended my freedom against attacks of state agents. I have uncovered all my life's struggles. I submit myself to you as a problem. Not recognising any one's right to judge me, I neither implore your pardon nor your indulgence. I do not make appeals or requests to the ones whom I hate and despise. You are the strongest, dispose of me as you wish. Deport me as a convict or send me to the gallows, it doesn't matter. But before leaving, let me tell you one last word(...)

You call someone thief and bandit, you enforce on him the harshness of the laws without asking yourself if he could have been something else. Have you ever seen stockholder become a burglar? I confess not to know of any. But I, who is neither stockholder nor landlord, who is only a man who owns only his arms and head to ensure his preservation, I had to behave differently. Society only gave me three ways to exist: to work, to beg or to steal. Work is far from displeasing me.

People can't do without working; their muscles, their heads, have an amount of energy to burn off. What does repulse me, is to sweat blood and tears for the alms

xt to the classical propaganda, there is another means, maybe well less spread, but as effective, if not more, of agitating for the revolution. It is a common thing to say that anarchists haven't got any money. Theft is a good way of finding some. It's not a theoretical declaration beyond all reality and far from all risks.

Jacob read it in front of the court which was judging him. He had a quite impressive number of burglaries to his name, and a part of the loot served to support the anarchist movement in general and the libertarian in particular. And this choice of theft as a means of struggle got him twenty years deportation as a convict to devil's island.

In these times of crisis, theft is a practice which well used, can resolve a good number of problems. More, pushed to the extreme, theft is revolutionary. As Jacob says, what will happen when all the exploited of France*, tired of the negotiations of their unions, will choose theft to resolve the unemployment problem?



PROLETARIAN SHOPPING

* Translators note; This is a concept that is relative to all exploited people no matter which country they live in.

of a wage, is to create wealth of which I would have been defrauded. In a few words, it repulsed me to devote myself to the prostitution of work. Begging is degrading, the denial of all dignity. Everyone has a right to life's feast.

The right to live isn't begged for, it is taken.

Theft is the retaking of property. Instead of being confined in a factory, the same as in a prison, instead of begging for the things to which I have a right, I preferred to revolt and fight my enemies by making war on the rich, by attacking their goods. Of course, I imagine that you would have preferred that I submit myself to your laws, that as a docile and worn out worker, I create wealth in exchange of a ludicrous wage, and that with a used boddy and burnt out brain I go die in a street corner. Then you wouldn't call me a "cynical bandit" but an honest worker. Using flattery, you would have even rewarded me with a work medal. Priests promise a paradise to their dupes. You are less abstract. You offer a paper rag.

I thank you for such goodness, for such gratitude, sirs. I prefer to be a cynic, conscious of my rights rather than a machine or a statue. As soon as I had an awareness, I committed theft without any qualms. I do not respect your so called morals which extols the respect of property as a virtue when there are no worse thieves than owners.

Consider yourselves happy, sirs, that these morals have taken root in the people, for it is your best police. Knowing the powerlessness of the law, of force to be more exact, you have made it the strongest of your protectors. But beware, everything has only a time! All that is built by force and cunning, force and cunning can demolish.

The people evolve each day. Can you see that, learning these truths, conscious of their rights, all the starving all the beggars, in one word all your victims, armed with a burglar jemmy, wage war on your belongings to take back all the wealth that they've created and you've stolen from them? Do you think that they'll be more miserable from it? I quite think the opposite. If they thought about it well, they'd prefer taking all the risks, than to fatten you while moaning in poverty. Prison...deportation...gallows...you will threaten us with. But what prospect are these compared with a life of degradation made of all the suffering? The miner who struggles for his bread in the womb of the earth, never seeing the sun light, can perish at any moment, victim of an explosion. The tiler who walks on the rooves can fall

and be reduced to dust. The sailor knows the date of his departure, but ignores if he'll ever come back to the port. A good number of other workers catch fatal diseases while doing their jobs. They poison, kill and exhaust themselves in order to create wealth for you. Even the police, your lacqueys, who for a bone that you give them to gnaw, sometimes find death in the struggles against your enemies. Stubborn in your selfishness, you remain sceptical in the face of this, isn't so? "The people are scared", you seem to say. "We govern by the fear of repression. If it screams, we'll throw it to jail. If it moves, we'll deport it to the colonies, If it takes action, we'll guillotine it". Wrong calculation, sirs, believe me. The punishments that you inflict are not a cure against acts of revolt. Repression, far from being a cure only worsens the pain. Correctives measures can only sow hatred and vengeance.

It's a fatal cycle. And even more, since you slice heads off, since you populate prisons and the colonies with convicts, have you stopped hatred from showing itself? Say? Answer! Facts prove your powerlessness! On my behalf I knew clearly that my behaviour could have only resulted in deportation or the gallows. You must know that this isn't what stopped me. If I thieved, it is not a question of gain, of money, but a question of principle, of rights. I preferred to keep my freedom my independence, my dignity, than to make myself the agent of a master's fortune. In cruder terms, with no euphemisms, **I preferred being thief than thieved.** Indeed I also disapprove the means by which someone violently and cunningly seizes the fruits of someone else's labor. But it is precisely for that that I waged war on the rich, thieves of poor people goods. I also would like to live in a society where theft wouldn't exist. I disapprove of theft, and have only used it as a way of revolt, to combat the most unjust of all thefts; individual property.

To destroy an effect, you must beforehand destroy its cause. If there is theft it is only because there is plenty on the one hand and scarcity on the other; only because everything belongs to a few. Struggle will only disappear when people will share their joys and sorrows, their work and wealth, when all will belong to all.

Revolutionary anarchists, I've done my revolution, let anarchy come!

Alexander Marius Jacob.

Translated from the french.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

YUGOSLAVIA

In october 1986 six Conscientious Objectors (C.O.) from Maribor/Slovenija, Yugoslavia, recieved call ups to perform military duty, despite having refused to serve any kind of military service. They had already been repeatedly sentenced to long imprisonment, in many cases in disreputable prisons all over Yugoslavia.

After recieving their call-ups in october the military conscription office in Maribor retracted the call-ups in november 1986 without any kind of formal discussion. This prevoked a prevailing public opinion that reasonable judgement

had over ruled, at least in Slovenija, and that the reality of repeated sentences for C.O.'s was over.

This was not the case.

In late february 1987, all six young C.O.'s again recieved the call-up. They were to present themselves in the military units over Yugoslavia mid march 1987. Call-ups provoke C.O.'s to commit a new act liable to punishment, which proceed to new, even more severe prison sentences. In accordance with their conscience, the following persons are forced to refuse the military duty again and ti risk another prison sentence.

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	TIME IMPRISONED
Janko Cehtel.....	25-7-61.....	Twice-total sum-4 years
Valenta Rajko.....	10-8-1961.....	Twice- total sum-4years.
Bergaver Anton.....	10-1-1962.....	Once- total sum-3 years.
Miglic Bojan.....	28-7-1961.....	Twice-total sum-4 years.
Bergaver Ivan.....	25-4-1965.....	Once-total sum-10 months.
Jezernik Peter.....	3-1-1962.....	Once-total sum-2years 6mon

Intervention is requested- letters, telegrams, articles can be sent to:
Iztok, BP 161-09, 75422 Paris Ledex og.

